





Traditions

Ecuadorian exchange student talks about her holiday traditions



Year in Review

2012 was marked by great success and tragic loss

The Haliburton County



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\$1.50 incl. GST www.haliburtonecho.ca Total 28 pages

Publications mail agreement # 40063862

Monday, December 24, 2012

Winner of the OCNA Award for General Excellence



Concert season

Kindergarten student Owen Sisson, front centre, waves to the audience at the annual Stuart Baker Elementary School Christmas concert held in the gymnasium on Dec. 19. The concert, held on the 18th and 19th, included traditional holiday tunes sung by the primary students, in both English and French.

Angelica Blenich Staff

New bandshell to revitalize park

Angelica Blenich

Staff reporter

The Rotary Club of Haliburton is proposing a new bandshell for Head Lake Park to be built as early as next summer.

President of the club Andrew Hodgson and

members George Kadoke and Steve Roberts, made a delegation to Dysart et al council at their Dec. 17 meeting describing what the new bandshell would look like if approved.

The proposed project would be spearheaded by the service club in partnership with the municipality, said Hodgson.

"A larger structure, more weather protective,

will enhance and expand the number/type of performances. Bringing a larger audience into the park more often will be an overall economic benefit to the village of Haliburton," wrote the club in their proposal to council.

In an effort to revitalize the park, the structure would be built out of wood from the Haliburton

see ROTARY page 16



Test Drive raises \$2,200



Here, there & everywhere

news and events worth noting

Test Drive for a Cause raised \$2,200 last week at Curry Motors. General Motors and the dealership donated \$25 for each test drive over the weekend.

The money is being given to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation.

The winner of the \$100 Independent Gas Gift card from George's Auto was Pat Betts with her purchase of winter tires. Congratulations!

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Brad Park, owner of Haliburton Foodland in the foreground, and Mat Ouellette hand out toques to kids at Stuart Baker Elementary School in Haliburton on Dec. 19. Park and the Foodland staff donated hundreds of hats so that each kid was sure to have one this winter

Grocery store donates toques ahead of winter

Jenn Watt Editor

There's no knowing exactly which kids at Stuart Baker Elementary School were in need of a hat and which just snatched them up because they were "awesome."

Whatever the case, Brad Park and the staff of Haliburton Foodland were happy to give out hundreds of toques to kids at the school Dec. 19.

"Not every kid has a toque," Foodland owner Park said. "Some kids aren't fortunate enough to have one."

Whether they had one or not, each kid got one as an early Christmas present from Park and Foodland workers Mat Ouellette and Don Rowbottom.

'They're wicked!" one student exclaimed.

'We're really lucky the workers at Foodland came and gave us hats," another said.

"My big brother's going to want to wear it," a third chimed

The kids agreed that they thought "Foodland rocks" and planned to send a thank-you letter to Park and staff.

To see a group photo of the kids and their new toques, check out our website: haliburtonecho.ca.

The Voice of Haliburton County



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News



Tuesday, December 25, 2012

Dreaming of a white Christmas



Exchange student shares her Christmas traditions

Darren Lum

Staff reporter

Snow. She loves it and we've barely got any to speak of.

Romina Sabando Anargante, 17, of Ecuador is anxious to do anything and everything related to snow and the winter season.

Here since September, the Rotary International exchange student has savoured her time facilitated by the Rotary Club of Haliburton.

Coming from the coastal town of San Vincente Manabi (population 23,000), located on the ocean with mountains to the rear, with just winter and summer, she is excited by the full complement of seasons offered here.

"You guys are so lucky," she said.

She came for the snow and the opportunity to speak French, she said.

Her dad told her every snowflake is unique. It's something she found fascinating.

As a young child Romina thought snow was a made-up thing, told to fool her.

Now she knows it's real, recalling her first snow angel. She is looking forward to making a snowman. Romina also hopes to learn to skate so she can try the "awesome" sport of hockey.

With Christmas so close she cannot help but smile, as she shares the differences and similarities between her home and here.

It is an important time of year for her with Christmas Eve mass, family gettogethers, food such as *ceviche*, *pain de pascua* (bread with raisins), and *Dulce de las tres leches* (cake, topped with cream, durian and sometimes alcohol).

Romina stops short in her cultural discovery at the stuffing eaten with turkey, calling it weird.

In Ecuador after evening mass, the entire family eats dinner at midnight and follows that with opening gifts in the early hours of Christmas day. Sometimes children eat before and are put to bed since celebrations can stretch until the break of dawn.



Darren Lum Staff

Rotary International exchange student Romina Sabando Anargote is spending the year in Haliburton County, attending Haliburton Highlands Secondary School. She is experiencing winter and snow for the first time.

Unlike here where Christmas trees are the norm, in Romina's town, most people have a nativity scene in their homes. She points out while there are real trees available for Christmas it's far more common for households to have an artificial one. Close to 90 per cent of the country observes Catholicism, she said. Instead of Santa Claus there is Papa Noel.

At Christmas, and particularly at New Year's, Ecuadorians eat eight grapes in the first minute of the New Year's Day. It ensures good fortune and health, she

"My mom buys a lot and we have to eat it" she said

Although she has technically finished high school (in Ecuador students finish high school before 17), she is attending Haliburton Highlands Secondary School.

This past semester she has taken Grade 11 English and fitness, Grade 12 biology and Grade 9 French. Learning French was part of her reason for coming here, as she has a strong grasp on English already. She even participated in the school's Remembrance Day ceremony at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion in Hali-

burton.

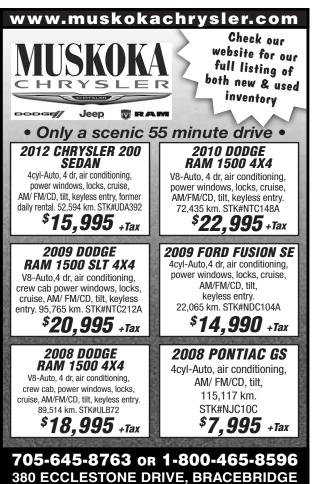
The athletic teen played for the Red Hawks high school varsity basketball

Back home she surfs, plays tennis, soccer, volleyball and swims. She has a younger brother Anibal, 16, and a younger sister Camila, 10.

She will stay with four families for the duration in the county and is scheduled to return home by August. The wide-eyed teen cannot hide her love of Canada, virtually guaranteeing she will stay right up until visa expires in September.



Kate Campbell reunites with David Mills on stage for a rendition of Baby, It's Cold Outside.





Jenn Watt Staff

Haliburton native Kate Campbell sings Christmas songs with Nick Mancini, left, Ross MacIntyre and Mark Kelso at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion Dec. 17.

Campbell dazzles at Pavilion

Jenn Watt Editor

Haliburton's Kate Campbell was met with warm smiles and loving applause at her Christmas performance, I'll Be Home For Christmas, at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion last week.

Padding around the stage familiar to the actress/singer/ The office at **Haliburton Veterinary Services**

will be closed from Dec. 22nd at noon to Jan. 1st.

If you have an emergency please call

1-888-234-6801

The office will reopen on Jan 2nd at 9am.

Please make sure you have enough medication and food.

Happy Holidays from all of our staff

star athlete in bare feet and a floor-length red gown, Campbell entertained the crowd with old favourites and new songs at her fundraising event.

"I'm nervous because I'm overwhelmed," Campbell told the crowd. "It's overwhelming and I want you to know how much this means to me."

Campbell recently founded SHE Lifts Off, a non-profit dedicated to "educating, uplifting and inspiring women of all generations" and money raised at the event will be shared between her charity and the YWCA Haliburton

Alongside Campbell, the Nick Mancini Trio kept pace with Mancini on vibraphone, Ross MacIntyre on bass and Mark Kelso playing drums.

And while the audience enthusiastically applauded Mancini's incredible prowess on the vibraphone (which looks like a really big xylophone), it was clear most were there for Campbell.

The singer is known locally for her work on the Summer Festival stage, her musical abilities and her gold medal performance in track and field while at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School in the 1990s.

She now works and lives in L.A.

The evening wrapped up with a performance by the Highlands Male Chorus, directed by Melissa Stephens.



Curling club seeks financial help

Angelica Blenich

Staff reporter

The Haliburton Curling Club is seeking financial support from Dysart council to help repair the club's building and parking lot.

Representing the club was president Rick Ashall and director Mike Johnston, who made a delegation to council at their Dec. 17 meeting. Attached to the Dysart arena and community centre, the curling club was established in the 1940s as a not-for-profit organization and has about 250 members and sees approximately 500 curlers a week, said Ashall.

The club's facility underwent some major renovations in 2007, which were completed through a \$100,000 grant and a \$200,000 loan from the municipality.

To date the club has paid about \$126,000 of the loan back, said Ashall.

Yearly revenue for the club rings in around \$154,000, compared to operating expenses at \$149,000.

"We're pretty close to breaking even," said the club's president.

The facility is currently facing a number of issues including ice and water build-up from poor drainage in the parking lot and the flooding of a curling sheet from run-off water.

The problems, which have existed for quite a while, impact bonspiels and access to the building.

In 2012, one curling sheet was lost for the balance of the season due to the run-off, according to the club.

The issues leave a negative impression of Haliburton, particularly when the Home and Cottage Show occurs in the spring, as the poor drainage means outdoor vendors are flooded and visitors are inconvenienced, said Ashall.

Another problem is inadequate parking space at the building, which shares a lot with the Dysart arena and community centre.

"The curling club, arena and Haliburton Legion are the most active community facilities ... that parking lot is often congested with buses and trucks. There is frustration with inadequate parking, especially in the evening," said Ashall.

There are also occurrences of inadequate water supply from the well, which along with the curling club supports the Dysart fire department, municipal sign shop and the Arts Council Haliburton Highlands office, which is municipally owned space. The club wants to maintain a positive relationship with council and keep communication lines open as well as receive financial support.

"We have new members join every year ... we are an affordable source of recreation," said Ashall.

Reeve Murray Fearrey said council would be looking at the parking issue in 2013 at budget time and has already begun work on the baseball diamond and parking lot. The plans were one of council's top priorities for the new year.

"We hear what you're saying, we know the importance of the curling club. That's why we've always supported you before," said Fearrey, citing the previous loan, which was given with a low interest rate.

The curling facility and land are leased by the club from the municipality. In 2013 the club will be hosting the Gore Provincial Championship.



Giving to those less fortunate

Phil McMahon, left, Michelle Kerr, Karen Frybort, Jai Cruz and Carl Dixon presented toys and \$700 to volunteer Sue Carroll of the 4Cs, collected at Carl Dixon's second annual Christmas Variety Show at the McKecks Tap and Grill on Friday, Dec. 14. The entertainment included the local band Victoria Secrets and musical guests including McMahon and Jocelyn Regina.

Darren Lum Staff





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$\textbf{WAYNE WILLIS}, \textit{Pre-Press Co-ordinator } \\ \textit{Forever in our memories: Creighton Feir} \\$ **Lessons learned in 2012** The reason it all went so well was the

Jenn Watt

Editor

012 WAS A year marked by several tragedies, but also significant growth **d** and progress in Haliburton. Here are some lessons learned.

Cottage country isn't a playground

Something needs to be done to put an air of caution into vacation time. Last summer there were several unnecessary deaths and more near-misses. Two young people died on ATVs, two men drowned and one was hit by a car. We know of four who were pulled from the water before drowning and there were likely more. Better edu-

cation about the dangers of water and recreational vehicles needs to be offered and understood. The media plays a role in this, but so too should government and author-

Good communication makes the difference

There's a lot that could go wrong with digging up a town's main street, but Dysart et al got away nearly unscathed with this year's streetscape. Minor issues definitely came up (here at the Echo we lost our phone and Internet for an afternoon), but knowing who to call and what to expect made things much more tolerable. Throughout town, most shop owners stuck to the script: yes, the construction is a hassle, but won't it be worth it in the end?

municipality communicated with the public and the Business Improvement Area about what was coming. It made the dif-

It's never too late to start something new

From a newspaper's point of view, it was John Teljeur's year in 2012. He started it off being crowned Highlander of the Year at the Chamber of Commerce dinner in January and ended it by bringing the national pond hockey championships to Hali-

burton. In between was the small matter of harvesting 1,700 pounds of produce for local food banks and spearheading a 12,000-pound food drive involving area businesses. What made him take up the cause? His daughter's birth three years

If at first you don't succeed ...

Hank DeBruin inspired us all taking a second run at the Iditarod and completing the 1,000-mile dogsled race across Alaska. His first attempt ended with the longtime musher dropping out of the race unnecessarily. In 2011, he proved to everyone his was up to snuff in the Yukon Quest (described as more grueling than the Iditarod). 2012 vindicated DeBruin, his family/team and fans as he finished after 12 days, 22 hours, 13 minutes and 50 seconds.

We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada

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Spirit of the season

photo by Darren Lum

The snow man

Steve Galea

Loon Tales

HESE DAYS, IT'S fairly common to hear someone my age lamenting that the snow was much higher when we were kids - which is why Jenn shouldn't have been too surprised when I said it yet

Even so, I immediately noted her level of skepticism.

"You don't believe me do you?"

"I think that this is something everyone says because they only remember the big snowstorms," she countered. "And besides, everyone always remembers the snow being higher when we were young because we were all much shorter back then."

I left the room and quickly returned with a photo of me in Grade 4.

'OK, I take that last part back," she said. "But I still maintain that people exaggerate about the amount of snow they experienced when they were kids."

"Really?" I said. "You think I'm exaggerating?"

And then I left the room and returned with another photo of a very young Steve Galea standing beside a snowman that I had just created.

"Well, what do you think now?" I said. "Notice anything?"

"Oh, you had to build a snow ramp in order to put his little hat on ..." she said. "That's so cute."

"Not that," I sputtered. "Look at the rest of the photo?

I then pointed out that snow was hanging from the boughs, the banks beside the road were high and the roofs were fairly covered with snow

"That's just about the same amount of snow we get now," she said. "In fact, aside from the old cars and bell-bottomed snow pants, things don't look all that different."

"Oh come on," I said. "Have a good look.

That snow was higher than my knees."

"My running shoes are higher than your knees," she countered.

She then got out a ruler and estimated the snow depth by comparing it to the known height of things in the photo.

And when all was said and done she said, "There's really not that much snow in the photo."

Since I've always lived by the slogan, "Never argue with

a woman holding a ruler" I conceded her point. Even so, I didn't believe her. And I think it

"Look, it's perfectly logical," she said. "You see, in your mind, you remember it differently because you were outside playing and immersed in it. And, since you were a kid. you only went out on the days when there was lots of snow. So your mind holds an inflated memory of what snow depths were actually like back then."

I just stared blankly.

"I'm just saying memory isn't credible when it comes to this kind of thing. You're just going on vague impressions you had as

I walked off, carefully considering what she had said.

"My memory isn't credible?" I muttered. 'Yeah right."

Then I snickered, looked at that photo and mumbled, "Yup, that was the best July

points of view

Shades of white

TWAS BAD ENOUGH being so far from home. But to not even have a white Christmas made it worse. Vicky slipped on the wet Vancouver sidewalk and wondered how people could live in such a damp grey December world. Holly grew in hedges lining front lawns but that only made it feel spring-like to Vicky's eastern eyes. As she finished her Christmas shopping she thought about her brothers back in Ontario. Probably getting ready to ice fish without me, she thought miserably.

It had been winter for two months. The wind caught a sheaf of snow and swirled it around like sawdust falling from his father's circular saw. This was Mark's first Christmas in Whitehorse. With the first snowfall coming before Halloween, it felt as though he had already experienced



Sharon LynchDown our Road

the full season. But he knew the worst of the cold and dark was yet to come. He pulled up his parka's hood and lowered his head into the frigid breeze. Back home his mother would be finishing up her Christmas baking without him.

The lane into the farm was soft but passable as Marie drove toward the log farmhouse. Stubble from the fall harvest stuck up through the thin snow like hands begging for mercy. Such a miserable week, she thought. On the spur of the moment she had decided to spend this, her first Christmas alone, at her grandparents' old farm. Marie

was looking forward to a few days with only her memories for company. The funeral and all the visitors had worn her out.

The little room was dusty and dark, the furniture worn and crowded into too small a space. Len reclined on the stained sofa watching television. By now the sofa knew every bump and curve of Len's body and had taken on his shape. Flickering colours shone on Len's grizzled features. Their expression never changed as the commercials urged him to consider buying French perfume, a play set or maybe a new car for the Christmas.

To go or not, that was the question on Laura's mind as she listened to the weather forecast. The snow had not yet started. Perhaps the drive would be manageable after all. Steve and the boys would meet her at the cottage. They had left at the first of the week since both her husband and their sons were on the Christmas break. But Laura had had to work. She headed out right after breakfast.

Vicky awoke to brilliant sunshine pouring through her windows on Christmas morning. To her surprise the temperature had dropped during the night turning the rain to snow. Looking out her apartment window she quickly saw the thin blanket of white had thrown the city into chaos. Cars were sliding sideways on the hill in front of her building. If the sun continued, she thought, this snow would probably be gone by the afternoon. But the white lifted her spirits as she reached for the phone. Back in Ontario it would be late morning and she wanted to wish everyone a Merry Christmas before they scattered to all the in-laws for turkey.

When Mark opened his Christmas parcel that morning, he found a tin crammed with his mother's baking. Iced sugar cookies and rum balls fought for space with thick slabs of shortbread. Suddenly it felt like Christmas, despite the wind howling like a banshee.

Once Marie got a fire going in the old kitchen range the room began to warm. She placed a bowl of clementines in the centre of the harvest table and sat down with a strong cup of tea. No one would disturb her and her memories for these few days at least. She revelled in the peace and silence.

The pounding on Len's door woke him and he grabbed his pants before answering it. It was early and last night's snowfall showed a single set of tire tracks in his drive. Standing in the doorway, Len's cousin Harry beamed like a lighthouse. Len had orders from Harry's mother to show up for turkey dinner at noon and she would not take no for an answer

After what was probably the worst drive of her life Laura plowed through the fresh snow choking the cottage road. She sent yet another prayer of thanks for four-wheel drive vehicles as she rounded the turn. Ahead of her the cottage windows glowed warmly and Steve had shovelled the walkway, awaiting her tired footsteps. She felt herself grinning in gratitude, thankful to be alive and with her family at Christmas.



pic of the past

ain Street Haliburton. Submitted by Kim Emmerson. If you have a pic of the past you'd like to submit, bring it to the *Echo* at 146 Highland Street.

letters to the editor

Ode to Haliburton at Christmastime

By Ev Stata

The streets of our town are all lit up With a beauteous array of light;

Red and yellow, green and blue they make a glorious sight!

The music of Christmas carols o'er the traffic sound, Putting us all in the "spirit" for when Christmas does come 'round:

And the busy housewife rushes cross the street forth and back.

Trying to remember what it is that now she lacks
To make it the very best Christmas this year
And bring to their day a big heap of good cheer.
"Yes, I've ordered the turkey and bread for the stuffin"

Oh dear, here comes Grandpa a huffin' and puffin' Hiding something he's bought for the boys Hope it's some of them computer toys – Yes, I've made the cookies and some big mince pies Oh dear, oh dear, did I forget Dad's ties? And how about the 4Cs their need is so great I'll just get them some canned goods before it's too late;

Oh and there are those girls that sing in the choir I must get my tickets to hear the Messiah And something for my neighbours, they're such good riends

Well I guess I'll get it all sorted out by the end Of this Christmas season so I'll wish you good cheer And a Merry Christmas and a Happy New year!

Where I live

By Betty Austin

I venture outside in the snow and the cold. These Canadian winters sure make me feel old.

My snowshoes are dormany, my skis are too quick. The 25th of December will bring old St. Nick.

I snuggle up tight watch the auroras in the sky. As quick as a wink winter passes us by.

Spring with bring flowers and birds on the law. Between May and June does give birth to their fawns.

The tourist will come mingle in with us folks. The merchants will smile and laugh at our jokes.

There'll be boating and fishing, our lakes spring alive. Our town will be buzzing like bees in a hive.

So I think I will stay and these are the reasons, Why I live in Haliburton for all the four seasons.

www.haliburtonecho.ca

Dysart arena to be renamed once completed

Angelica Blenich

Staff reporter

The following are brief reports of items discussed at the Dec. 17 meeting of Dysart et al council.

Once construction is finished, the community rink in Haliburton will have a new name on the side.

The Dysart arena will be renamed the A.J. LaRue Community Centre, in honour of Albert LaRue, who passed away in

The suggestion came in the form of a letter submitted by Brian Black, who believes LaRue was an important and active member of the community.

"Albert or Ab, as he was called, was the chairman of the Dysart park board in 1963 when it was closed. The citizens of Dysart voted to build a new arena at an estimated cost of \$100,000. With all the grants, etc., the citizens had to raise approximately \$15,000. Actual cost to the municipality was estimated at \$37,000," wrote Black in the letter.

LaRue worked tirelessly to get the arena built, from writing letters to businesses asking for donations, overseeing the construction, organizing many volunteers and

putting the roof shingles on himself, wrote

Passionate about hockey, LaRue wanted to see an arena in the community and once built he began a junior hockey team, "which was big for us at the time," said

The owner of a bus company, LaRue provided free transportation for hockey teams, a tradition that was carried on until

Council agreed LaRue was an active member of the community and that no one would argue his contribution to hockey.

"I know it's hard to single one person out ... I certainly can endorse this as a reasonable thing to do," said Reeve Murray Fearrey.

'It's just unbelievable when you look at the numbers that they built the arena with \$37,000 in 1963. You can't build a dressing room with that now. How things have changed," said Fearrey.

The municipality decided to move forward with the renaming and instructed parks and recreation director Ray Miscio to look into sign options for the building.

The arena is currently under renovation, with the municipality recently receiving more than \$405,000 from the Community Infrastructure Improvement Fund to go towards the project.

Fearrey said he believed Dysart's application was the only successful one in the

Repairs to the building include the installation of new underground pipes, which were leaking brine into the ground.

Streetscape work done for now

The Haliburton streetscape project which saw extensive changes to Highland Street is finished, for now.

The project, which started in September, wrapped up in December, two weeks behind the original anticipated comple-

Remaining work includes: the installation of pay and display parking meters, a town clock, signage, street furniture, landscaping, repair and leveling of paving stones and the replacement of sidewalk and curb on Maple Avenue.

Director of public works Brian Nicholson expects this work to be done early next

Hockey championship receives festival

designation

The Canadian Pond Hockey Championships coming to Haliburton County have been designated a community festival.

A resolution was passed giving the event the designation to allow for a liquor licence for the championships, which will be held over a period of two weekends in

The tournament will be held at Head Lake Park and Pinestone Resort and is expected to draw some 1,600 hockey play-

FIT projects move forward

Council has approved a blanket resolution supporting feed-in-tariff projects within the municipality.

Four individual resolutions for FIT projects were also passed by council.

All applications were in regards to ground mounted solar projects on Highway 118, requesting a zoning compliance certificate from council.

Applications were only accepted for lands currently zoned for commercial, industrial or institutional uses, following current provincial regulations.





A traditional Christmas

Grade 3 students in Mrs. O'Connor's class wave their socks to the beat of the Christmas Sock Song at the annual Stuart Baker Elementary School Christmas concert held in the gymnasium on Dec. 19. The concert, held on the 18th and 19th, included traditional holiday tunes sung by the primary students, in both English and French.

Christmas spirit

Haliburtonians lit up the night this year in preparation for Christmas.

A few readers sent in photos of their displays, which are posted in a gallery on our website (haliburtonecho.ca).

your favourite display throughout the hol-

The winning entry will be published in the Jan. 8 Haliburton Echo newspaper.



Cathy and Alex Bell had a spooky take on Christmas this year. Their place at 1280 Wonderland Road blends Halloween fun with the festive season.



Larry and Ruth Strong decorated their Essonville Line property with illuminated reindeer, Dora the Explorer and other festive cheer.



Peg Truman decorated her porch on Maple Avenue with traditional holiday fare.



Carmen Webster decorated her balcony with festive lights and snowmen at Echo Hills apartments in Haliburton.



Gerald and Krysta Sharp's house on Ridgeview Road was decorated with precision.



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Thank you to the following generous businesses, groups and individuals:

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Reads of the week



Book of the Week

The Time of My Life by Cecilia Ahern

Lucy Silchester's life has come calling. Literally. Lucy doesn't exactly have it all together: she is unhappily single, in a job she hates, and lives in a cheap studio apartment with the world's grimiest carpet. Worst of all, she is so caught up in a growing string of lies that she cannot turn to her friends and family for support. To put it simply, Lucy is in denial about her life and her life, in turn, has become fed up with her. He wants to meet Lucy, he wants to put her on the right track, but Lucy isn't exactly impressed with Life when she meets him. Meeting life is bound to have disastrous, hilarious and even romantic consequences. The Time of My Life by Irish chick-lit author Cecilia Ahern is a charming, original and surprisingly thought provoking read that will remind you that your life is always there, even when you are ignoring it. Reserve this novel in print or talking book formats at the Haliburton County Public Library.

Junior Book of the Week: Picture Book Title

This is Not My Hat by Jon Klassen This is Not My Hat is the much anticipated companion novel to Canadian author Jon Klassen's best-selling debut I Want My Hat Back. At the book's opening, a tiny fish steals a blue hat from a great big fish. The pint sized fish is confident that he's committed the perfect crime, but could he be underestimating his target? Using visual humour and deadpan illustrations, Klassen crafts a darkly comedic tale, sure to please fans of his first book, as well as other readers who are looking for an amusing read. Both This is Not My Hat and I Want My Hat Back are available to reserve from your library today.

Local Celebrity Read



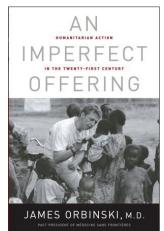
"No other book has touched my heart and soul as this one did," Vicki Fraser of the Dysart (Haliburton) branch says about An Imperfect Offering by James Orbinski. This book is written by the former president of Medecins Sans Frontieres (Doctors Without Borders), chronicling his time in Rwanda in the late 1980s and early 90s. "Once I had read it, I was very attached to the character [Orbinski]," says Fraser. "I worried about him because of what he saw

but I watched his documentary Triage: Dr. James Orbinski's Humanitarian Dilemma where, 10 years later, he returned to Rwanda. Now he is married and has kids, so there was a light at the end of the tunnel for him." Both An Imperfect Offering and Triage can be reserved from the library.

News & Events

Free holiday children's programming is set for the Minden Hills, Dysart and Wilberforce branches

of the library! Stop by Minden Dec. 27, Jan. 2 (10 to 11 a.m.); Dysart Dec. 29, Jan. 4(10 to 11 a.m.); or Wilberforce Dec. 28, Jan. 3 (12:30 to 1:30 p.m.) for stories, games



Haliburton County Public Library



A look back at 2012 in the Highlands

Budget cuts

2012 started off on a cautious foot as county council grappled with changes in equalization payments from the prov-

In January, council was told it would lose about \$332,000, leading them to cut back in several departments.

Tourism stakeholders were frustrated by an \$80,000 cut to the tourism department after the department's director retired and was not replaced. More than 20 emails came in against the cuts from business owners.

One department that was allowed to grow was emergency services, which put an additional ambulance on the road in the fall. (A new EMS base in Tory Hill was successfully completed in June.)

The hospital is likewise faced with cuts, as the province indicates no increase of funding will be coming. While the board agrees it can cope one year without increases, board members indicate there will need to be adjustments made if no additional funds are allocated in the next few years.

John Teljeur

Out of the woodwork, John Teljeur emerged in 2012. While he started his "food crusade" after his daughter was born a few years ago, Teljeur's charitable endeavours were recognized at the Chamber of Commerce awards in January in the form of the Highlander of the Year award.

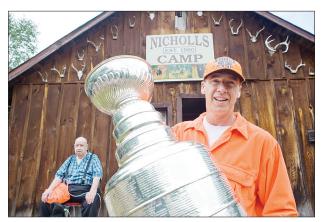
By the end of the year, Teljeur had donated 1,700 pounds of food from his Gelert garden to local food banks, launched the Fill the Truck non-perishable food challenge and lured the Canadian pond hockey championship to Haliburton from Huntsville.

Rail Trail consultations continue

In an effort to finally come to resolution on the Rail Trail, the county embarked on a consultation process.

A survey done at the beginning of the year showed that most respondents thought motorized and non-motorized users could create a solution that included both of them on the 33-kilometre corridor from Haliburton to Kinmount.

Following some study, consultant Kate Hall presented county council with recommendations including creating community zones, which would be park-like areas with low speed limits, re-routing motorized users onto Crown land in certain places, allowing snowshoeing and cross-country skiing on the trail in the winter and better promotion of the



Darren Lum Staff

Bernie Nicholls, right, who was the consultant coach for the Los Angeles Kings, fulfilled a promise to bring the Stanley Cup hometo Haliburton in August. Among the places he took it was at his family hunt camp where he posed with his brothers Erin and Dave, including father George, left. He said his father was his best coach.

trail to tourists.

These things require money, of course, meaning at present the Rail Trail remains much the same as before the

New housing

Granite Cove condos rose up on the shore of Head Lake almost overnight. Meanwhile, the same developers approached council with a second project: Granite View, to be constructed on Mountain Street behind the Anglican

In the Carnarvon area, Places for People bought its second property to provide affordable housing to families.

Restaurant switcheroo

Mediterranean restaurant Aniz closed its doors following its sister restaurant 212 Fine Foods both on Highland Street and both with the financial backing of Maarten Steinkamp. In April, Hali's Bistro took over the Aniz building (for-

see TIM page 12



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Tim Hortons said to be opening by June

from page 11

merly Old Country House). Owned by Ann and Alan Gordon, the same people who bought Kosy Korner, Hali's Bistro offers casual fine-dining.

Other Main Street changes included Head Lake Eatery becoming Head Lake Grill (in the former Ray's Pizza location), the opening and closing of Earth Ways café on York Street and new restaurant/tea room Momma G's Teas opening up beside Moose

Clear Lake conflict

Some residents of the Clear Lake Conservation Reserve raised concern when the Ministry of Natural Resources released a management document restricting ATV use on the lands, cached boats and groomed winter trails.

The area was designated a reserve in 1997, with some residents happy with new protections of the lands, while others thought the MNR went too far, infringing on their rights as landowners.

About 150 people showed up to a public meeting to voice their concern over the MNR document.

On the other side, several landowners wrote to the ministry asking for the document to remain as-is.

The reserve includes old-growth hemlock stands and several special lakes, including Black Cat Lake, which is meromictic, meaning the water doesn't circulate the way most lakes' water does.

DeBruin finishes Iditarod

After an unfinished attempt at the great Alaskan dogsled race in 2010, followed by success in the Yukon Quest race in 2011, 2012 vindicated Haliburton's Hank DeBruin and his team of huskies.

In 12 days, 22 hours, 13 minutes and 50 seconds, DeBruin completed the 1,000mile race across from Anchorage to Nome in March.

DeBruin acquired a huge fan base online and in-person including Carnarvon's Ed and Sue Yallop, who flew to Alaska to cheer on the musher and his family, including Tanya McCready-DeBruin and their four children.

Tim Hortons planned for Haliburton

After years of speculation about when the gigantic coffee shop franchise might land in Haliburton, the company made real progress in making the gossip reality.

An application to amend zoning to a property on County Road 21 landed on council's desk in March, moving relatively quickly through planning processes, despite some opposition from those who think it will create a dangerous traffic situation and devalue adjacent homes.

As of last week, the company, developer and municipalities were all expecting a June opening of the restaurant.

Weather

It was a warm, record-breaking winter and a dry, hot summer in the Highlands (and most of Ontario) in 2012.

First some tourism operators fretted ahead of Christmas with nearly no snow.

They soon got what they wished for, only to have it prematurely melt away in March.

On March 20, the temperature in Haliburton hit 24°C, something Environment Canada senior climatologist Dave Phillips called "unbelievable"

The summer that followed was so dry that the entire county was under a fire ban in

Molou theatre closes for good

In March, the 70-year-old Molou theatre named for Molly and Lou Consky was converted into shops, with seats removed and film projectors dismantled.

Increasing operating costs and dropping attendance contributed to the theatre's

The front box office was preserved and is now the home of a dollar store.

Lives lost tragically

Alongside those who died throughout the year of injury, disease or other medical reason, there were also many lost under sudden tragic circumstances.

Kennisis Lake cottager Hunter Goemans, 3½, died after the ATV his father was driving ran into a chain across a road he was travelling in April.

Adam Clark, 24, originally of Haliburton, died in Kingston when his bicycle was hit by a car on Highway 15.

Kieran Wulff, 20, died in Soyer's Lake May 14 after swimming out into the lake after a boat that had gotten away from him.

Couple Viola and James Dunford died when their car was struck by another on South Baptiste Lake Road on July 9. The couple lived in Harcourt.

The body of missing cottager Bob Puffer was found on Georgian Bay. He had been gone for five years, last seen at his Kashagawigamog Lake cottage.

Richard Bieler, 70, of Thornhill died on July 27 after being struck by a car on Kashagawigamog Lake Road. Bieler was out for a jog when he was hit.

Nineteen-year-old Jake Hughes died Aug. 20 after his ATV hit a gate near Kennisis Lake. Hughes was from Welland and studying criminology at Brock University.

Ayreh Aaron Wise, 33, of Thornhill drowned in Lake Kashagawigamog on Aug. 27 after his kayak tipped into the water.

Victoria Street School up for sale

The local school board decided in May the former elementary schoolhouse, built in 1924, was surplus. The move forced the



Darren Lum Staff

There was close to 230 survivors (and caregivers) who took the initial lap for the Canadian Cancer Society Relay for Life in Haliburton at the local high school track on Friday, June 8. 2012 marked the \$1 million mark for Haliburton.

adult education centre and Youth Unlimited out. The building was offered first to the municipality, which is looking into buying the structure at the corner of Victoria Street and Pine Avenue in Haliburton.

CARP launches

What could be a better fit for the Highlands than a CARP chapter, looking after the needs of retired folks?

After putting feelers out at the beginning of the year, a small, dedicated group successfully launched the Haliburton County branch to a packed Legion hall in the fall.

Its events continue to garner large crowds, including its volunteer recognition day in December.

Johnny Burke inducted into hall of fame

Local country music celebrity Johnny Burke was inducted into the Canadian Country Music Hall of Fame in September.

Originally from New Brunswick, Burke, 72, moved to the Highlands about five years ago. He has recorded more than 12 albums.

HHHS CEO leaves Haliburton

Paul Rosebush announced in June he would be leaving Haliburton County for southwestern Ontario.

He was replaced on an interim basis by Foster Loucks, former HHHS CEO, who spent time heading up the Central East Local Health Integration Network.

In 2013, a new CEO will take the reins - Varouj Eskedjian of Ross Memorial Hospital.

Dysart arena

closes for repairs

You can tell how much Haliburtonians love their hockey by the reaction to the Dysart arena closing.

In July, politicians announced that emergency repairs had to be done after a leak had been found.

The arena would be closed for most of the

Subsequent planning was critiqued by the local hockey community as the municipality tried its best to keep up with the requests while keeping the cost in check.

Streetscape

Shoppers and store owners smiled their way through months of construction on the Haliburton's main street this fall.

Telephone lines were buried and interlocking brick installed around sidewalks to beautify the downtown. The last touches, including new parking meters, will be done in the spring.

Labour unrest amongst teachers

The end of the year was marked by a dispute between the secondary and elementary teachers' unions and the province over controversial Bill 115.

It imposed collective agreements on teachers, negating the negotiating process, the union argued.

In response, the teachers participated in a one-day strike and work-to-rule action.

Minor hockey success

Three Highland Storm teams made the Ontario playoffs this year: Bantam girls, Peewee AE boys and Bantam AE boys.

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Above: The Red Hawks varsity hockey team didn't make it to the all-provincials, but dominated the Kawartha league and won tournaments such as their second A division St. Peter's Saints Classic high school boys' hockey tournament crown at the Evinrude Centre in Peterborough on Thursday, Jan. 12. Haliburton pulled out the victory with a 3-2 win in triple overtime against the Pickering St. Mary's Monarchs. Submitted file photo



Athletic highlights of 2012

Right: Hank DeBruin drives his sled flying the Canadian flag with son Logan on the sled behind, tethered to help keep the 16 dogs in control, as they complete the ceremonial start to the 2012 Iditarod going through town from Anchorage, Alaska. DeBruin was one of three Canadians to finish the race. /Tanya McCready



Above: The Red Hawks varsity A field hockey team proved to be the class of their area, advancing to the all-provincial tournament for the second straight year. Although they were winless at the tournament, the team played well. /File photo





All-provincial berths came for the Red Hawks Nordic ski team Jillian Mayhew, Christine Darlington, McKenzie Hill and Brigitta Hicks who represented the Haliburton Highlands Secondary School at the Central Ontario Secondary School Athletics championships held in Haliburton at the Glebe Park on Wednesday, Feb. 15. / File photo *this is only a sample of the athletic achievements from the year.

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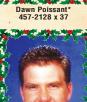








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Rotary hopes bandshell ready for summer

from page 1

Forest, likely spruce, and include an open concept, said Kadoke.

Similar to the current facility, the base of the bandshell would be a concrete pad, measuring larger than the existing pad.

'We are going to have engineers look at it, ideally we would like to pour over the existing pad," said Kadoke.

Deputy-reeve Bill Davis asked how the club would go about protecting the bandshell from vandalism, which it has fallen victim to in previous years.

Hodgson said the club could look into having cameras installed to monitor the site.

"It looks great to me," said Reeve Murray Fearrey.

The club is asking the municipality to match their contribution of \$30,000, with Rotary taking the lead in finding addition funding.

A preliminary budget presented by the club includes other streams of revenue from the Ontario Trillium Foundation and the Haliburton County Development Corporation, as well as donations.

The breakdown of the estimated cost of the new bandshell, including labour, materials, engineering expenses and the dismantling of the current bandshell, is a total of \$106,600.

The club is hoping to have the project lined up and ready for construction by the spring, said Hodgson.

"We want to have it ready for the summer," said Kadoke. Municipal clerk Cheryl Coulson said the structure would have to be completed by the end of June at the latest, as there were events already booked for next July

The club has been in discussion with local contractor Alfredo Rico to build the structure, anticipating the installation to take only a few weeks.

While the Rotary Club would undertake the project, the bandshell once completed would belong to the municipal-

All applications for funding would be completed by the club, with Hodgson hopeful to receive news from HCDC and the OTF in March of next year.

"If the project costs less than anticipated the Rotary and municipal portions will be decreased," said Hodgson.

Council approved the project and committed to it moving forward.

"This is good news," said Fearrey.

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A preliminary drawing of the new Head Lake Park bandshell will be made out of wood from the Haliburton Forest and will be open concept. Proposed by the Haliburton Rotary Club, the structure will be built to replace the existing bandshell and will be a joint project with the municipality of Dysart et

Girls' Storm hopes for Christmas win against Cobourg

The Minden Car Quest/Canadian Tire Midget BB Storm girls' hockey team travelled south Dec.19 to take on the Cobourg Wild. The almost two weeks with no games showed in a slow start in a sluggish first period, but the score remained tied at 0-0. Both teams picked up their level of play in the second period generating some scoring

The Wild scored their only goal midway through the second period during a long line change and a shot/squeaker that dribbled across the goal line.

The Storm tried to rally in the third and pulled the goalie twice to generate a goal to tie the score late in the period, but fell short in another nail-biter loss. Final score 1-0 in favour of Cobourg.

The Storm midget girls get a chance to challenge the Cobourg Wild again this Saturday night, Dec. 22, in our home-and-home contest in Minden at 7:30 p.m. Be ready to hit the ice flying girls and take the attack to Cobourg in the holiday spirit - it will be nice to "give" them a loss.

Submitted by Dan Marsden





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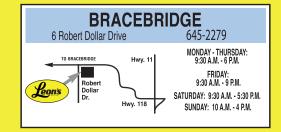
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Haliburton County Outdoors by Steve Galea



Outdoors photography: another reason to be outside

If you were to tell me a few years ago that I'd get almost as much satisfaction from taking a tack sharp photo of a buck as I would from placing my tag around its antlers, I would have told you you were crazy.

But, these days, I can honestly say that's the truth.

I have become obsessed with outdoors photography for a number of reasons.

It augments my outdoors experiences by teaching me more about the animals I pursue and the places they live.

It provides me with, when I get it right, beautiful images of the natural world.

It gives me another reason to get outside and enjoy bright days throughout the year.

And it is fun in its own right.

I actually think that any hunter or angler who doesn't carry a camera into the outdoors is missing out.

After all, we often visit places and see things that few others do. We bump into countless unique photo opportunities: bull moose, knee deep in water, wild gobblers strutting or a grouse drumming on a log, to name a few.

Also, in many ways, we are uniquely suited to the task; getting within range for a good photo takes much of the same knowledge and many of the same skills we use when hunting.

In fact, I often look upon it as hunting with a camera.

This year is a prime example. I didn't let tagging out fairly early in the bow season stop me from visiting the deer woods. Instead, I traded my bow for a camera and learned more about my local deer herd in the process.

The great part about using a camera is that it's year round activity. You can shoot photos of any animal whatever the season.

And you don't need to confine your efforts to game species. Getting good close-ups of song birds can be just as satisfying.

I'm not a great photographer, but the cameras available now are not that hard to use and are packed with features that certainly make the task easier – and they get better every year.

Even so, if you are going to improve as a photographer a few things really help.

First, read your camera's manual so that you are fully aware of what it is capable of doing.

Next, visit outdoor photography websites and study how these talented people compose photos and use light. Read the articles and learn the tricks of the trade and soon you'll soon be bringing home better images

Another thing that really helps is the use of a ground blind. If I'm serious about getting good photos I set up a ground blind in the area and spend time in it, just as if I were hunting.

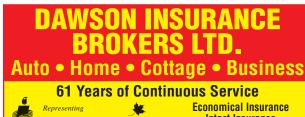
And last, take a lot of photos and experiment. This familiarizes you with your camera so that when an animal or bird does show up, you are not fumbling around and blowing a precious photo op.

Next time you head to the woods or lake, take a camera along and use it.

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Christmas at Highland Wood

Photos by Jenn Watt

Galexie McKenzie, left, and Autumn Winder sing out of homemade songbooks at Highland Wood long-term care home on Dec. 11. The Sparks, Brownies, Girl Guides and Pathfinders gave a Christmas concert to residents.









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Do the hokey-pokey



Left, spark leader B.A. Reid helps Taylor Horsley through the lyrics of one of the Christmas songs

The Sparks, Brownies, Girl Guides and Pathfinders gave a Christmas concert to residents of Highland Wood. Bottom left, girls in Sparks, Brownies, Girl Guides and Pathfinders sing a version of the hokey-pokey in their Christmas concert for the residents of Highland Wood longterm care home on Dec. 11 in Haliburton.











Post your event for free on the web. Go to: www.mindentimes.ca or Community Calendar link at: www.haliburtonecho.ca

ATTENTION stamp collectors in Haliburton and Minden area, new club is forming in the Highlands. Please contact Kevin for more information at 705-489-1038 or 705-457-5949

Dec 27th: Winter FUN Free Programs at the Library Christmas Break: from 10:00 to 11:00 located at the Minden Hills Branch location

Dec 28th: Winter FUN Free Programs at the Library Christmas Break from 12:30p.m. to 1:30 p.m. located at the Wilberforce Branch

Dec 29th: Winter FUN Free Programs at the Library Christmas Break from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. located at the Dysart Branch location

Dec 31: Minden Hills Family New Year's Eve located at the Minden Community Centre. Enjoy a Family Skate, Christmas Tree Bon Fire at 8:00 p.m., Fireworks 9:00p.m. Cammy George 286-1936

Jan 6: COUNTRY MUSIC JAMBOREE S.G. NESBITT ARENA MINDEN from 1 pm to 5 pm. Hosted by the ``COUNTRY HOT FLASHES AND THE COLD SHOULDERS" OPEN MIC.....old fashioned square dancing. "SHOWCASE YOUR TALENT & ENJOY TRADIONAL COUNTRY". `Bring your whole family, Children Welcome``. ADMISSION- \$7.00. 5 pm- Hearty Hamburger Soup/Rolls/Dessert - \$6.00. Food provided

by MINDEN LIONESS. Proceeds to "Fuel for Warmth" Please Note: Next Jamboree---February 10th, 2013

Jan 2: Winter FUN Free Programs at the Library Christmas Break from 10:00a.m.- 11:00 a.m. located at the Minden Hills Branch location

Jan 3: Winter FUN Free Programs at the Library Christmas Break from 12:30p.m. to 1:30p.m. located at the Wilberforce Branch location

Jan 4 & 5: Some Like it Hot. Put a little sizzle in your life. Warm up to the art in you with a full day introduction to glassblowing by artists inspired by nature. You will create several pieces of glass art. Throw in some spicy cuisine and warm hospitality and you have a very hot arts adventure. For information and rates see www.yoursoutdoors. ca; to book call 705-754-3436 or email info@youroutdoors.ca

Jan 4: Winter FUN Free Programs at the Library Christmas Break from 10:00a.m. to 11:00a.m. located at the Dysart location

Jan 12: The Haliburton County Historical Society 3rd Annual Golden Slipper Music Era Dance, beginning at 8:00p.m. located a the Wild Moose. Dance to the 50's style. Tickets are \$10. Contact: Larry Giles at 705-754-0427 for more information

Coming Events



CHRISTMAS AND EPIPHANY AT ST. GEORGE'S

December 25 (10.00 a.m.)

Christmas Day at St. George's

December 30 (9:30 a.m.)

Christmas 1

January 6 (9:30 a.m.) **Epiphany**

January 13 (9:30 a.m.) Baptism of the Lord **Guest Worship Leaders** Nick Adams and "Church of Rock"

(SERVICES AT ST. MARGARET'S 11:15 A.M. EVERY SUNDAY)

Spreading Christmas joy



The Grade 7/8 class of Wilberforce Elementary School perform a flash mob dance to the song Let it Snow at the school's annual Christmas concert on Dec. 18 at the Lloyd Watson Centre. The afternoon event included music, a traditional Christmas play and a raffle. See more on page 23.

Attention Parents & Grandparents



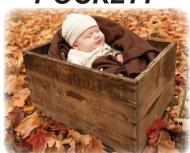
Here's how to be included on

January 22 & 23 2013

The Haliburton Echo will publish a special page in **full colour** to show off the babies of 2012. Please fill out this form below and include photo and payment or stop by our office Cost: \$25 (plus hst) each or \$45 (plus hst) for both. Times & Echo Publications

Deadline for photos is 12 noon January 11, 2013 Pre-payment required. We accept: Cheque • Cash • Visa • Mastercard • Interac

Child's Name:	
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Parent's Names:	
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Phone:	
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Gracie Is Excited To Announce The Arrival Of Her Baby Brother

Gibson Leslie Richard

Born August 27th, 2012 9lbs, 6oz

Proud Parents are Mike & Brianne Happy Grandparents are Les & Mary Pockett,

> Larry & Betty Hewitt, and Bernard & Shirley Clancy



As an added bonus all submissions for this feature will be entered into a draw for a free one year subscription to

The Haliburton Echo or Minden Times

Please bring it in to our office or send to: The Haliburton Echo Minden Times 2 IGA Rd. 146 Highland St. Haliburton ON KOM 1S0 Minden Phone: (705) 457-1037 jennifer.mceathron@sunmedia.ca

Christmas cheer at JDH

Top right, J. Douglas Hodgson Elementary School students Sam Miller, left, and Hannah Klose cover the Taylor Swift song Christmas Must Be Something More at the character education and Christmas assembly in the gym on Wednesday, Dec. 19. The song was dedicated and followed by a moment of silence for the victims of the Newtown school shooting.

A J. D. Hodgson Elementary School Grade 5 student takes a breath at the assembly in the gym on Wednesday, Dec. 19. The hour-long event raised the spirits through song and dance, including a Gangnam Style inspired dance number to cap it off.

Far right, a faculty member leads students in a Gangnam Style inspired Christmas song/dance at the assembly.

Darren Lum Staff









Angelica Blenich Staff

Grade 4 and 5 students from Ms. Phipps's class act out the Canadian Christmas Song at the Wilberforce Elementary School Christmas concert on Dec. 18 at the Lloyd Watson Centre. A take on the traditional tune 12 Days of Christmas, the song featured Canadian gifts including Toronto Maple Leaf jerseys, snowboards and a Canadian goose in a Maple Tree.

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Career & Business Opportunities



Canoe FM is looking for a Project Coordinator to lead the development of our Volunteer Program.

This project must be completed on or before August 31, 2013.

The Canoe FM Volunteer Management Program will serve to create, implement and evaluate a comprehensive volunteer program that will be consistent and sustainable over time. Central to the project will be the creation of print materials: volunteer handbook, orientation manual, volunteer training modules and volunteer records, feedback and evaluation data. The project will also include volunteer training sessions designed to meet the unique needs of administrative/office, on air broadcast, fundraiser, committee, programmers, remote broadcaster, promotional/ marketing and accounting and volunteers serving as members of the Board of Directors in leadership roles. Finally, the Canoe FM Volunteer Management Project will include innovative and regularly planned radio and community activities designed to support, recognize and appreciate volunteers.

For a complete job description, please go to www.canoefm.com or drop by the Canoe FM office at 739 Mountain Street in Haliburton

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> Tuesday, January 15, 2013
> at 4:00 pm in the
> Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion
> New members welcome
> For more information please call 457-7751
> or email northerniciaths the stree (gmail com

or email northernlightstheatre@gmail.com

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'n memoriam



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Due to Holiday printing scheduling the **Haliburton Echo and Minden Times** are unable to process Death Notices until January 8th and 9th. Please visit www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com for updated notices

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'n memoriam

In loving memory of a dear Dad, Grandpa & Great-Grandpa Weldon McPhail

I see the countless Christmas trees around the world below With tiny lights, like Heaven's star reflecting on the snow. The sight is so spectacular, please wipe away the tears, For I am spending Christmas with Jesus Christ this year.

I hear the many Christmas Songs that people hold so dear But the Sound of Music can't compare With the Christmas Choir up here. I have no words to tell you, of the joy their voices bring for it is beyond description, to hear the angels sing.

I know how much you miss me: I see the pain inside your heart But I am not so far away, we really aren't apart. So be happy for me dear ones, you know I hold you dear, And be glad I spending Christmas With Jesus Christ this year

I sent you each a special gift from my heavenly home above, I sent you each a memory of my undying love. After all, love is a gift more precious than pure gold. It was always most important in the stories Jesus told. Please love and keep each, as my Father said to do, For I can't count the blessing of love He has for each of you.

So have a Merry Christmas, and wipe away that tear Remember I am spending Christmas with Jesus Christ this year.

Missed very much by Carol, Timothy & Dawn, Noah, Josh, Drew, Jesse McNeil. Kimberly & Michael, Chloe & Reed Ormiston







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Tn memoriam

Casey Ray Passed away December 23, 2005 Loving Husband, Dad and Grampa The day you left us Our hearts just broke in two, The smallest part is still with us And the biggest part with you. You're always close beside us, In everything we do, You were our greatest treasure, Gods gift to us was you. Loved and never forgotten Loraine, Renee, Kenton and families

HAYWARD, Robert Bob - In loving memory of Bob who passed away on January 4th 2009

Loving memories never die As years roll on and days pass by. In our hearts a memory is kept Of the ones we love and will never forget

"Betty and Family

12710427





HOLIDAY HOURS

DEC. 26-29 9am-6pm, DEC. 30 10am-5pm, DEC. 31 9am-6pm **CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY AND NEW YEARS DAY** 35-45 Bolton St., Bobcaygeon 705.738.2522, 1.800.231.6365

Merci, Merci. Quelle surprise!

Wilberforce

Hilda Clark

448-2018

Among the Christmas cards arriving chez Hilda this week was a tres unique une. Et it was written in both Anglais and Français. Oui. Mademoiselle Clark received special greetings from someone dans la class de sixième annee immersion francaise at J.D. Hodgson Ecole. It was part of their Nobody class project in which students wrote letters of appreciation to people in their commu-

Mine was a letter thanking me for what I greatly enjoy doing.

I am sure you can translate. It reads: "Nous voulons vous remercier pour tout que vous fait pour la communaute de Wilberforce."

Je suis heureux. Un bon cadeau Noel.

Thank you, merci, to the anonymous student who wrote and sent the letter. Merci to the teacher who designed this project. What a thoughtful idea with such practical value for the students.

I promise to reply in my mostly forgotten high school French in the New Year.

The students and teachers of the Wilberforce school put forth fine effort in their Christmas concert this year. It truly entertained the audience at the beautifully decorated Lloyd Watson Centre on the afternoon of Tuesday, Dec. 18. The program included music, dance and drama. And each class included songs sung in French, which nicely gives this column somewhat of a theme.

The Grade 4/5 class playing *Ode To Joy* on recorders got the show off to a very lively start. They then sang the Canadian Christmas song D'ou Vien Tu Bergere? (Whence O Shepherd Maiden?) and Quand le Pere Noel.

The 5/6 class followed with a delightful very modern interpretation of Dickens' The Christmas Carol. The spirits took mean old Scrooge through many scenes to get him to change his ways. Things were so bad for him at one point that he had no Facebook friends! That really made him change. Isn't it amazing that a story written by Charles Dickens who was born 200 years ago is still so meaningful today? (Let's celebrate the bicentennial of his birth on Feb. 7!)

They ended their part with the song *Il Est Ne Le Divin* Enfant.

The Grade 7/8 class clad in matching bright red shirts and Santa hats performed a well choreographed, well executed flash mob dance to Let It Snow. Their rendition of Vive Le Vent with enthusiastic ho ho ho's was a hit.

All of the students heartily sang We Wish you A Merry Christmas to end the program. Carmen Galea and Dylan Smith were very efficient co-announcers during the con-

Thank you to Angelica and Jenn and all at the Echo office for a delicious luncheon at the office last week. It is a pleasure for all those who do not work out of that office to meet there socially especially at the special time

And to our readers best wishes for a Christmas season that has some merry and bright times.



Angelica Blenich Staff

Grade 4 and 5 students from Ms. Phipps' class act out the Canadian Christmas Song at the Wilberforce Elementary School Christmas Concert on Dec. 18 at the Lloyd Watson Centre. A take on the traditional tune 12 Days of Christmas, the song featured Canadian gifts including Toronto Maple Leaf jerseys, snowboards and a Canadian Goose in a Maple



Township of Algonquin Highlands

requires an

AIRPORT MANAGER

The Township of Algonquin Highlands with a permanent population of 2,000 and a seasonal population exceeding 10,000 is known within Central Ontario as an area of natural beauty where residents enjoy a rural lifestyle second to none.

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The Airport Manager also acts as the Township's Community Emergency Management Coordinator (CEMC)

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- Basic understanding of economic development, advertising, marketing and public relations.

\$31.52 - 35.48/hr for a 35 hour work week

Applicants must indicate how they meet the minimum qualifications in their resume. We thank all applicants; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Please submit your resume in confidence by $\underline{\mbox{3:00 p.m.}}$ on Thursday, January 17, 2013 to:

Angie Bird, C.A.O.

Township of Algonquin Highlands 1123 North Shore Road, Algonquin Highlands, ON K0M 1J1 705-489-2379 Ext. 222

abird@algonquinhighlands.ca

Visit our website for a full Job Description at www.algonquinhighlands.ca



Check out our Listings Haliburton County

this **Thursday** in your mailbox and throughout the County!

Wishing you a Safe and Happy Holiday Season



HALIBURTON

705-457-1011 1-800-465-2984

191 Highland St. . 10 Bobcaygeon Rd. .

705-286-2911 1-800-567-1985 2260 Loop Rd.

705-448-2222 1-800-461-0378 4490 Kennisis Lake Rd.

LBERFORCE KENNISIS/REDSTONE

705-754-4242 1-866-787-6002

Linda & Troy

Baumgartner

Broker & Sales Representative



(705) 457-1011 ext. 231 or

455-SOLD (7653)

linda-troy@bellnet.ca www.haliburtonrealestate.on.ca HaliburtonRealEstateTeam

Your Key to Haliburton Highlands Real Estate





MAGNIFICENT REDSTONE

4 bedrm year round cottage. Full walkout basement. Stunning S/W facing lot with privacy.

\$638,800



DRAG LAKE ACREAGE

82 Acres. Fantastic views. Awesome privacy. Prime Lake!

\$450,000



Boat/fish from 1350sf home/cottage. Village edge convenience. Lots to offer! Garage, Bunkie & more!

\$397,000



SAND BEACH-DRAG LAKE

Beautiful lot, sunny facing south. "As is" cabin, year round road. Build your Dream!

\$359,000



LEVEL LOT-SAND BEACH!

Magnificent Haliburton Lake. 110' rippled sand beach. Perfect new cottage location.

\$329,900



Original 3BR cottage plus Bunkie on South Bay. Level lot & sand beach.

\$299,900



MOUNTAIN LAKE, MINDEN

Breathtaking view, Clean sand/rock shoreline. Level lot. Driveway in. Old cottage on site.

\$249,000



FEATURE-FULL HOME

R2000 Home in Gooderham. Bright. Full Bsmt, Insul Dbl Grg, generator & panel, alarm system & more!

\$157,000



INGOLDSBY HOME

\$140,000



VILLAGE VALUE

Convenient to Haliburton or Bancroft. 2+1BR, spacious living, basement, carport & more.

\$138,800



TIDY HOME - GELERT ROAD

Renovated 1+1 BR, 5 min from village. Full fin bsmt. Level lot, view of the lake. Ideal starter!

\$137,900



OWN YOUR OWN!

Great little starter home. 2+1BR, 4pc. Full Bsmt, Dr. Well, Septic. Irondale.

\$118,000



GETAWAY TO THE GULL

8 acres/cabin on the hilltop with view! Several building sites. Great retreat, pretty location. 3km to Minden

\$105,000



RESIDENTIAL LOT

Very nice lot w/drive & site cleared. Upscale location & Head Lake access.

\$84,900



15 ACRES

15.34 ac/870 ft frtg for privacy. Hardwood bush, Driveway in. Good size pond. Close to skiing.

\$48,500



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DREAM HOME LOT

Build on this level 3.48 Ac lot near West Guilford & Eagle Lk. Hydro/phone avail.

\$25,500



4 ACRE LOT

Nicely treed. Scenic views. Fronts on a pond. Part borders crown land. Sunny S/W exposure. **\$23,900**



MAPLE LAKE

Building Lot on Fader Rd With deeded access to the lake.

\$19,999



facebook.

HaliburtonRealEstateTeam



The years are going by faster and faster, and here we are with another Christmas upon us. Take time to embrace life, enjoy friendships, and love & laugh with family during the Holidays. This is our Christmas Wish to you.





Happiest of Holidays

from our Team!

Troy, Linda & Marion